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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Spring of 1911

STRAWBERRIES



Blue Grass Nurseries

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

H. F. Hillenmeyer & Sons, Proprietors

Telephone 279



HAVERLAND



FOR many years the growing of strawberry plants has been one of our specialties, and not during this period have we ever had a crop which was superior. The early spring was somewhat dry and plants set then, for six weeks, did not show enough life to make the rows perceptible. But during the summer and early fall, there was an abundant rainfall to induce an unusually satisfactory growth, and our plants succeeded beautifully. Weeds grew, also, but with much labor and expense every one was destroyed and the soil kept in perfect tilth. At this writing they are in the best of condition. We feel confident that all, to whom we may have the pleasure of selling, will find our plants fine and equal in vitality to the best.

TRUE TO NAME.

We believe our plants as true to name as any; have always exercised the greatest care in having them such. A member of the firm has always, personally, supervised the planting and, when fruiting, we have never noticed a mix. Equal care is also given when digging and packing. From the time they are set in our propagating beds to the time your order leaves our grounds, every precaution is taken to have them as represented. We guarantee them to be true to name, but, being human, like other people, we sometimes make mistakes, and when they do occur, we stand ready at all times to replace or refund the purchase price. The fact that we have never been called upon to do so is undoubtedly an evidence of care and should be appreciated by prospective purchasers.

SHIPPING.

We always ship by express or interurban unless instructed to the contrary. These are best. Our wagons make two or more deliveries each day and plants are often on carriers six hours after digging. We get them off promptly.

Lexington affords shipping facilities equalled by few cities in the country; with four railroads radiating in every direction and a net work of interurban lines connecting central Kentucky, we have all that is desired. Express companies handle our consignments promptly.

A certificate of inspection has been issued our nurseries. Our plants are free from disease.

Immediately when plants are received, unpack from top side. The mark pin indicates variety below. If ground is not in condition, spread bunches on your cellar floor, and cover with a moist sack, but do not wet plants. They will keep in good condition for ten days or more.

DIGGING AND PACKING.

Our plants are dug and shaken by hand; immediately placed in sacks so as not to be exposed to the air; each sack is labeled and taken to our counting room. Here they are tied into bunches of 26, trimmed and usually packed as fast as counted. We never keep any old plants on hand and our customers may rest assured that they will receive fresh, unexposed stock.

We pack in light boxes or crates and separate the varieties by a layer of packing material over which is a brace or mark pin which indicates the kind below. **Always open and unpack from top of box.** The tag shows this side. The above method further excludes any air and the plants usually open up as fresh as when dug, and in perfect condition.



Strawberries and How to Grow Them.



MINUTE MAN

There are few fruits, if any, which succeed over such wide territory as the strawberry. They may be grown anywhere by almost any one. To the beginner, they afford an ex-

ceedingly favorable opportunity; to the owner of a small back yard, delightful, healthy, recreation with recompense; to the specialist, a means of livelihood. In other words, it is the fruit of the masses. They should form a part of every garden. Plants reasonable, easily cultivated, early to produce returns and reliable. Why shouldn't fine, highly colored strawberries for canning, preserving and to serve with cream find a ready and welcome place when they may so easily be had? Fruit, more fruit and better fruit are ideas well worth considering.

THE SOIL.

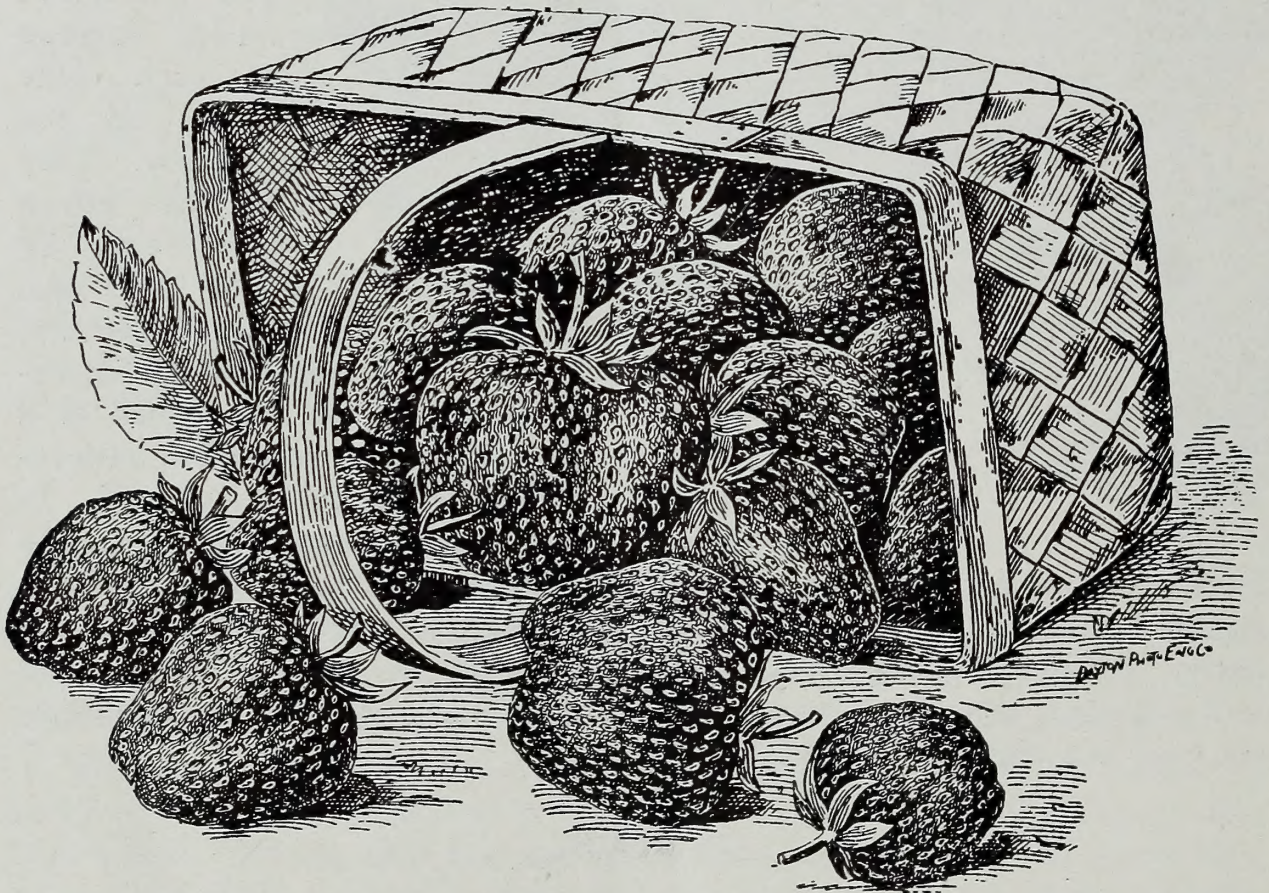
Any soil that will grow potatoes will also produce strawberries. They are by no means exacting. Plow early to conserve the moisture; pulverize thoroughly before planting; care for as directed and "Patience will bring a perfect reward." However, let us caution thus:—Never plant immediately following sod; the white grub usually so prevalent thereafter will frequently destroy almost an entire bed.

PLANTING AND CULTIVATING.

Distances for setting vary, but as a general rule, rows four feet apart and plants $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in same are satisfactory. This will give ample space for passage ways which are essential in harvesting large crops of berries. About 7,000 plants are required per acre when planted as above. However, when space is limited, three feet by one foot may be used with success. When ready to set the roots should be shortened one-third and dipped into water, or, better still, into thin mud. The bunches should then

be opened and plants dropped at distance desired. When planting, the roots should be placed straight down or spreading just a little. The same methods used with cabbage or tomatoes are satisfactory. Be sure that the earth is pressed **firmly about the roots** and the crown is just above the surface level. If too deep, they may rot; if too high, they may die.

After plants have commenced to grow, cultivation must be started. Do



TENNESSEE

all that is possible with horse tools without disturbing the roots. Work space between plants with hoe. When the former is not permissible, all work may be done by hand. The ground should be stirred after each rain or about every two weeks. Never let a single weed get to any size. They are the worst enemies of the strawberry. They may be destroyed a hundred at a stroke when small, but are frequently difficult to eradicate if given a start. Keep the strawberry patch clean. It is essential. Often during a wet season when cared for as above, young plants become too thick. Six or eight well developed plants from each mother are sufficient and all others should be cut off as new runners appear. Don't let them get matted like sod and expect a full crop. Under such conditions, it is impossible. After the growing season, about December or when the ground is frozen sufficient to hold up a wagon, there should be a thin coating of straw scattered over the plants. This is to protect from alternate freezing, to keep the fruit clean

and to hold the moisture. These things done, your labor should be well rewarded.

OLD BEDS.

After fruiting, they should be cut with scythe or machine as close as possible. Let the leaves dry for a day or so, then burn where they lay. This will destroy all insects, spores, etc. Then a small plow will be found useful. Turn furrows to the middles, leaving only six or eight inches of the original row; work thoroughly with the rows, then harrow crosswise until the field is level. It will not look like a strawberry patch but a seed bed. Within a week, new growth will commence and cultivation should be renewed as during the previous season. Beds will often last three years under this treatment, and frequently the second year gives the best fruit.

SELECTION OF VARIETIES—PERFECT AND IMPERFECT.

Some strawberries, when planted alone will not produce fruit. There are the perfect and imperfect flowering kinds. The former will bear anywhere but the latter need some of the perfect planted near to fertilize them. Haverland and Bubach are imperfect and need something like Tennessee planted near to make them fruitful. Usually, one row of perfect to three or four imperfect give satisfactory results. Both kinds should always be planted together. After each variety we indicate the sex. Our customers may rest assured that we shall send enough of each to make a fruitful bed where the selection is left to us.



VARIETIES.

You will notice that our list of kinds is not long. After thoroughly testing hundreds of varieties, we consider these the best among the best. You may plant any with confidence.



GANDY

Bubach (Imp.)—An old favorite which has lost none of its former popularity. Large, rather soft, excellent quality; an ideal berry for home or local market; medium late.

Gandy (Per.)—A standard by which other berries of its season are measured. Blooms too late to be used as a fertilizer. Large, firm, good color; late.

Greenville (Imp.)—An old sort which is capable of producing a large crop of excellent berries. Good for canning. Season, medium.

Haverland (Imp.)—We consider it the best all-round strawberry we grow. Good for market and home use. If we could plant only two kinds, they would be Haverland and something to fertilize it. Berries long and pointed; medium to large; firm enough to ship; good color; early to mid-season.

Marie.—A seedling of Crescent. If plants are not too thick, it will produce an abundant crop of fine berries. Plants vigorous. Large, firm; mid-season.

Minuteman (Imp.)—One of the most prolific plant makers we have and like the above, they should not be permitted to get too thick. Capable of holding its own. Medium size; good color; fairly soft; a good home variety; mid-season.

Parson's Beauty (Per.)—All that its name indicates. A strong healthy plant that can withstand a drouth. We have never had enough plants to satisfy the demands. Large; firm; dark rich color; good; mid-season.

Tennessee (Per.)—This is the best perfect variety we have. Blooms over a long period and is hardy. We use it to fertilize all of the medium and early kinds. A rampant grower and will make too many plants if not held in check. Plant six inches farther apart than other kinds. Large fruit. Good quality; early.

Uncle Jim (Per.)—The strongest grower we have. The fruit stems are large and hold the berries well off the ground. In blossom, it is a beautiful sight. Fruit equal to the bloom. Not quite hardy enough is the only fault that can be found. Goes well with Bubach. Large; firm; late.



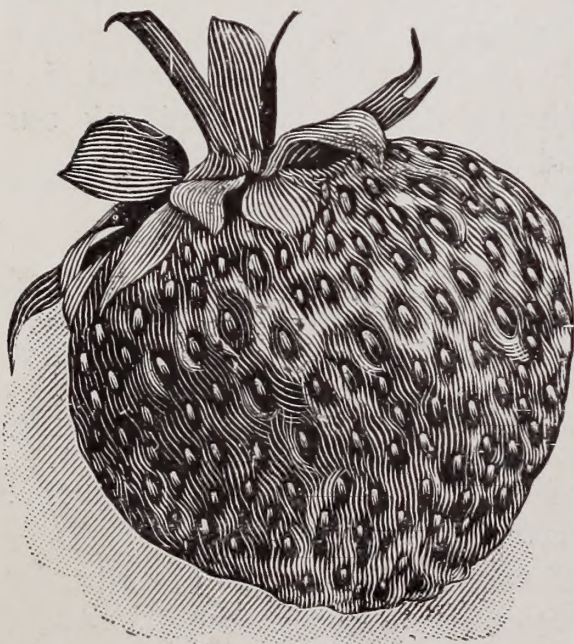
UNCLE JIM

OUR PRICES

In the beginning let us state, if you are looking for the "cheapest plants"

—stop here—we are not trying to grow that kind. There are strawberry plants and "strawberry plants." If you are looking for the latter, a mixed lot of poorly cultivated, dug, counted and packed stock, go elsewhere. On the other extreme, if you are looking for "Pedigreed Stock," we haven't that either. Experiment stations and unbiased fruit growers have proven them fakes. The best pedigree to have is a pedigreed grower—the fruit will follow.

We claim our plants as good as the best. Evidences of this are found in the fact that customers who bought of us 35 years ago are still



MARIE

ordering year after year. Our plants are priced as cheaply as we can grow and market them and at the same time furnish a legitimate profit.

NOT THE "CHEAPEST" AND WITHOUT A "PEDIGREE."

			Packing Charges.
100	\$.50		\$.10
300	1.2515
500	1.7520
1,000	3.0025
5,000	13.0050
10,000	25.00		1.00

There is no charge for packing when cash accompanies order; otherwise a packing charge will be added.

Please do not ask us to vary from this rule.

NOTICE.

These prices permit you to make a selection of varieties. You are not required to take a thousand of one kind to get the 1,000 rates. This is important when comparing other prices. From 300 to 1,000 plants are required—according to size of family.

READ THIS CAREFULLY BEFORE ORDERING.

This catalog abrogates all previous issues.

Prices are cash with order or satisfactory reference.

Send money by check, P. O. or express order, draft or registered letter.

Write name plainly and give shipping directions.

Our shipping season usually opens about the last of March and extends into May.

We do not sell plants in the Fall. It is a waste of time, money and energy.

We try to fill orders as received and can usually ship on any day requested. However, rain stops digging and as we never keep any plants on hand, it sometimes becomes impossible to meet our promise during a week of continuous bad weather. We always do our best and ask our customers to make allowance for such conditions.

SECOND CROP SEED POTATOES.

For a number of years past we have been offering second crop seed potatoes. Our customers have always reported good results. We have about 3,000 bushels, mostly Thorburn and Cobbler. If you are in the market, you had better place your order early. They are not likely to last at these prices:

Irish Cobbler\$0.75 per bu. Thorburn\$0.60 per bu.

If they are to be shipped, add 5c per bu. for sacks or bbls.

The above were grown from seed which was dipped in formalin for potato scab and sprayed for blight. No better stock can be found.

H. F. HILLENMEYER & SONS, LEXINGTON, KY.

